

# Proclamation

by

Steven L. Beshear  
Governor

of the

Commonwealth of Kentucky



*To All To Whom These Presents Shall Come:*

WHEREAS, The mission of the McDowell House and Apothecary Shop is to interpret the life of Dr. Ephraim McDowell, the Father of the Ovariectomy, by preserving and exhibiting his home, apothecary shop, and gardens; and

WHEREAS, December 25, 2009, will mark the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Dr. McDowell's pioneering surgery, the first-ever abdominal surgery performed in the world; and

WHEREAS, Dr. McDowell went on to operate on a number of notable citizens, including President James K. Polk; and

WHEREAS, The complete recovery of his abdominal surgery patient, Jane Todd Crawford, did much to dispel the misconception among both physicians and laymen that exposing the inner wall of the abdomen invariably produced fatal infection, and eventually led to the development of a new area of surgical practice;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, STEVEN L. BESHEAR, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, do hereby proclaim November 11, 2009, as

## EPHRAIM MCDOWELL DAY

in Kentucky and commend this observance to all.

DONE AT THE CAPITOL, in the City of Frankfort  
this 10<sup>th</sup> day of July, in the year of Our Lord Two  
Thousand Nine and in the 218<sup>th</sup> year of the  
Commonwealth.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Beshear", written over a horizontal line.

STEVEN L. BESHEAR  
GOVERNOR

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Trey Grayson", written over a horizontal line.

Trey Grayson  
Secretary of State

RECEIVED AND FILED

DATE

7/10/09

TREY GRAYSON

SECRETARY OF STATE

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BY

R. J. J. J.